

SUBJECT: VIETNAM-ERA UNACCOUNTED FOR STATISTICAL REPORT

BACKGROUND: The Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service, and the Department of State report the current numbers of Americans who are unaccounted for in Southeast Asia:

AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

<u>COMPONENT</u>	<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>					<u>TOTALS</u>
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	
ARMY	9	462	99	25	0	595
NAVY	267	90	19	1	8	385
MARINE CORPS	22	194	16	8	0	240
AIR FORCE	203	167	240	18	0	628
COAST GUARD	0	1	0	0	0	1
CIVILIANS	1	20	9	5	0	35
TOTALS	502	934	383	57	8	1884 *
<u>PURSUIT STATUS</u>						
FURTHER PURSUIT	177	471	326	47	4	1025
DEFERRED	68	107	22	2	1	200
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	257	356	35	8	3	659
TOTALS	502	934	383	57	8	1884

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH

VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH

CB = CAMBODIA

CH = CHINA

LA = LAOS

* INCLUDES 468 AT SEA/OVER WATER LOSSES

ACCOUNTING FOR U.S. PERSONNEL: The Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii reports that since 1973, the U.S. has accounted for 699 Americans from Southeast Asia.

**AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973
REPATRIATED BY:**

VIETNAM	489	*
CHINA	2	**
LAOS	182	
CAMBODIA	26	
TOTAL	699	***

NOTES:

* 34 remains from the Official Died in Captivity Lists provided by the Vietnamese in 1973.

** 2 ashes returned from China.

*** 4 remains were recovered and turned over to the U.S. by indigenous personnel; 1 from North Vietnam and 3 from Laos. They are included in the country count.

This change in statistics is the result of accounting for five Air Force flight crew members, lost over Laos on June 3, 1966.

U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS: Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 22169 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

SUMMARY OF REPORTS

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1929
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	4982
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5489
DOGTAGS	9769
TOTAL	22169

- a. Of the 1929 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1903 (98.65%) reports are resolved.
 - 1326 (68.74%) reports were equated to Americans who are accounted for (i.e., PW returnees, missionaries, civilians jailed at various times for violation of Vietnamese codes).
 - 45 (2.33%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
 - 532 (27.58%) reports were determined to be fabrications.
- b. The remaining 26 (1.35%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
 - 22 (1.14%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
 - 4 (0.21%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as truck drivers; married with Vietnamese family).
- c. The following timeline presents an overview of unresolved firsthand sightings by the year of the sighting:

TIMELINE: UNRESOLVED LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS

Pre-1976	1976-1980	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total
14	1	0	1	3	0	7	26

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<u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u>	<u>PW/MIA</u>	<u>KIA/BNR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
NORTH VIETNAM	265	237	502
SOUTH VIETNAM	391	543	934
LAOS	238	145	383
CAMBODIA	28	29	57
CHINA	6	2	8
TOTAL	928	956	1884

* Status as of Homecoming

Figure 2 summarizes all unaccounted for Americans in Southeast Asia by components:

U.S. LOSSES BY SERVICE COMPONENT

<u>COMPONENT</u>	<u>PW/MIA</u>	<u>KIA/BNR</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
USA	305	290	595
USN	95	290	385
USMC	85	155	240
USAF	412	216	628
USCG	0	1	1
CIVILIAN	31	4	35
TOTAL	928	956	1884

KEY OBSERVATION ABOUT REPORTING: A Vietnamese Government misinformation program has been associated with recent reporting on missing Americans. Those reports all pertain to the alleged recovery of remains and identifying data (i.e., dog tags) by Vietnamese citizens.

- a. Since mid-1982, 9769 “dog tag” reports on 8275 individuals reveal the following trends:
 - 7719 (93.28%) of those names reported are individuals who returned to the U.S. alive
 - 386 (4.66%) of the reports correspond to U.S. remains that have been recovered/identified and buried in the U.S.
 - 170 (2.05%) relate to individuals who remain unaccounted for.
- b. In all instances, dog tag reports receive thorough investigative attention, to include informing the military services of those reports with valid names so next of kin can be advised as appropriate.